

IN HONOR OF JYM GANAHL

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the storied meteorological career of Jym Ganahl. For five decades, Jym has served his friends and neighbors as their meteorologist. His accurate and educational forecasts helped to warn us of impending inclement weather as well as plan our day's activities.

Beginning his career in 1966 with KWWL-TV in Waterloo, Iowa, Jym quickly became a valuable asset in the news room. In 1978, Jym joined WCMH-TV in Columbus, Ohio, and has since become a staple in our community. For nearly four decades we have tuned in to hear Jym's report, and generations have grown up hoping Jym would give them the good news that a snow storm was imminent and school would be canceled.

In addition to his talent as a meteorologist, Jym is also a valuable mentor to aspiring young men and women. His guidance and tutelage helped many achieve their goals. Unfortunately, the hands of time do not stop and central Ohio witnessed Jym's last forecast on September 4, 2016. Although we will still be seeing him on television during his WCMH tailgate-party broadcasts during football season, the weather forecast will not be the same without his humor and knowledge. I have enjoyed working with Jym Ganahl over the years and I congratulate him on his 50-year career as meteorologist. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MILLER COUNTY,
MISSOURI UPON ITS DESIGNATION
AS A PURPLE HEART
COUNTY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the designation of Miller County, Missouri as a Purple Heart County and its inclusion as a part of the Purple Heart Trail.

The Purple Heart Trail is a system of roads and monuments throughout the United States that pay tribute to veterans that have been awarded the Purple Heart. The system was established in 1992 by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. As a Purple Heart County, signs along Miller County roadways will now provide a visual reminder of those who have paid the price for others to live and travel freely throughout our country.

The Purple Heart was established by George Washington to honor members of the military that have been wounded or killed in service to their country. As a lifelong resident of Miller County, I am proud to live in a place that prioritizes honoring those who have paid the price to secure our liberty. Our nation owes so much to the brave men and women that have placed their lives on the line for our nation's future. The Purple Heart Trail is an important reminder of that debt of gratitude shared by all Americans.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Miller County on this important designation, and in thanking all Purple Heart recipients and veterans for their service to our country.

IN MEMORY OF RAY THORN

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, Ray Karl Thorn was born March 20, 1946 and passed away August 27, 2016. A loving husband, father, and grandfather, he was a ray of sunshine to all who knew him.

As a community leader, Ray was one of the founding members of the Friends of Colorado Lagoon (FOCL). He was instrumental in the successful litigation that saved the lagoon from a flawed storm drain project, which would have precluded any restoration.

He then led the group's pivot towards collaboration and relationship building, creating the strong partnerships that FOCL still enjoys with the city, port, and regional groups. He was FOCL president for five critical years during the time when the group was fighting to convince the city and regional leaders that restoring the lagoon's historic open waterway was essential to the community and environment.

His relationships with the City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation, and Marine directors gave FOCL credibility and helped the group move forward when there were many projects competing for funding. In later years Ray continued to serve as a board member and leader for FOCL as the group successfully restored vital wetland habitat, helped transform the lagoon from having the worst water quality in Long Beach to the best, and educated the public about the importance of wetlands. The final vision of the lagoon as a clean jewel of Long Beach would not have been possible without Ray's efforts.

Born in Tooele, Utah to Roe and Lydia Thorn, he was the fourth of five children. Ray grew up in Springville, Utah and graduated from Springville High School. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Brigham Young University (BYU) in Sociology and a Master's Degree from BYU in Organizational Behavior.

It was also at BYU that Ray met his future wife Becky Asher. Their marriage of 44 years was a positive example for many that knew them because of their devotion to each other and their commitment to creating and maintaining a strong marriage. Their only daughter, Nicole Thorn, was born in 1979 and their grandson, Leif, was born to Nicole Thorn and Steve Stern in 2010. Ray spent much of his time with them, for they were a source of joy in his life.

Ray loved the outdoors and was a beautiful downhill and avid cross country skier. He loved spending time in the mountains, on the beaches, hiking, bike riding, and rollerblading. Ray loved animals and enjoyed evenings throwing the Frisbee or ball for his dogs and teaching them new tricks. He was devoted to his wife and family and cherished the vacations, road trips, and camping trips they took together. He loved adventures: walking on thin ice to see under-ice whirlpools, rafting in a lake during a lightning storm, driving through

rivers, sneaking into places to find the best sledding hill, and off-roading for the fun of it.

He was an excellent communicator both in his work and personal life, bringing people together and making them feel valued and understood. As an Organizational Behavior Consultant, Ray worked for over 40 years with business, governmental, and educational institutions. He assisted leaders, teams, and organizations to improve their culture, norms, and working relationships.

Ray had a gift for helping people communicate. He coached them to better understand each other, to enhance their levels of trust and openness, and to engage in productive problem solving. As a coach, trainer, and team builder, he assisted thousands of leaders from multiple organizations across the country and abroad. He led them to respect and utilize their differences in order to complement rather than compete with one another, freeing them to create and maintain supportive teamwork.

Ray is survived by his wife Becky Thorn, his daughter Nicole Thorn, his grandson Leif Thorn-Stern, his son-in-law Steve Stern, and his sister Maris Grotegut.

He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SARAH E.
D'ERRICO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sarah E. D'Errico, 42, who passed away on July 6, 2016. Sarah was born on February 25, 1974 in Columbus, Ohio, the daughter of Walter and Karen Lee Kingry Matheny.

Sarah graduated from Westland High School in 1992 and went on to attend The Ohio State University, then eventually graduate Summa Cum Laude from Youngstown State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education. She went on to work for Delphi Packard Electric, and then for the Trumbull County Educational Service Center, where she taught for their Trumbull Virtual Learning Academy.

Sarah enjoyed being involved with the community and contributed her time in many ways. She belonged to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Niles, and was a parish school instructor and festival volunteer, and a Girl Scout Troop Leader. She also loved to fish, scuba dive, kayak, go on family vacations, entertain, and craft. Above all else, she loved spending time with her husband and children.

Sarah will be deeply missed by her family. She leaves behind her parents, her husband James D'Errico, whom she married June 25, 2004, her daughter Alysse Marie D'Errico, her son Gavin Joseph D'Errico, her two brothers Andrew Matheny and Adam Matheny, her maternal grandmother Evelyn Kingry and her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Sam and Joyce D'Errico.